

Church News

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being pastor at White Zion for many years. In early days the church had a very large country membership, and then after the war it had a long period of depression. But nobody doubts now that White Zion is coming to life again. It has gained nearly fifty per cent in membership in the past two years. Moreover it is a vigorous example of what Presbyterians can do in the country when they try.

MISSOURI.

St. Louis Presbytery: Three fields in the Presbytery of St. Louis are in need of pastors: One, a church of 200 members, located in a town of more than a thousand people, having two main railroads, and paying a salary of \$900.00 and manse. This field offers good opportunity for growth and development. Another, in a town of 12,000 population, with a membership of 100, paying a salary of about \$1,200.00 without manse. The third, a group of two churches, lying in the path of the western growth of the city of St. Louis, one an old church, with an excellent piece of property, including church, manse and ten acres of land, and the other a comparatively new organization in a rapidly growing sub-division of the city. This field will pay a salary of about \$1,000 with manse or \$1,200.00 without manse. Pastors interested in any one of these fields are requested to communicate with the undersigned.

J. Layton Mauze, Chairman,
Home Mission Committee.
St. Louis, Mo.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Mallard Creek Church: The fall sacramental meeting of Mallard Creek church was held on the second Sunday, the 10th inst. The Rev. J. M. Grier, D. D., of Concord, First assisted the pastor, Rev. John E. Wool, in the preparatory services, preaching three strong and impressive sermons. There were two sermons on Sunday and dinner on the grounds. Two were received on confession of faith and four by letter.

OKLAHOMA.

Cordell: Rev. W. T. Pearman, of Madill, Oklahoma, has been called as pastor of this church.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Columbia Seminary: Opening exercises were held on Wednesday last. Dr. J. O. Reavis, professor of English Bible, delivered a sermon on Psalm 16:8—"I have set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved." He told of the difficulty of seeing God, the various ways God has manifested Himself to men and the advantages of having God with one. His sermon was directed especially to students. He warned them of "The danger of the 'Deadening familiarity with the sublime.'"

After the sermon Dr. McPheeters offered a prayer and the president, Dr. Whaling, welcomed the new students. Last year there were 50 students enrolled at this institution. This year 60 are expected. Two years ago there were 37 students enrolled.

Charleston Presbytery: At a special meeting of this Presbytery on the 20th the place for the next regular meeting of Presbytery was changed from John's Island and Wadmalow church to New Wappetaw, McClellansville, S. C., on the 3rd October at 8 P. M.

Alexander Sprunt, Stated Clerk.

The Synod of South Carolina will meet at Greenwood, Tuesday, October 10, 8 P. M. The clerks will be in the church during the afternoon to enroll the members in advance.

The number attending is not large enough to secure reduced railroad rates, so that ministers should use their clergy permits and elders their mile books if they have them.

Thos. H. Law, Stated Clerk.

Fort Mill: Rev. W. H. Mills, D. D., pastor of Fort Mill church at Clemson College, has been called to the pastorate of the Nazareth-Reidville group of churches in Spartanburg county, Enoree Presbytery.

Whitney Mills: Rev. G. W. Belk, evangelist, has just concluded a successful revival meeting at Whitney Mills, near Spartanburg, and is at present conducting a meeting in the Second church, Spartanburg, of which the Rev. Asa D. Watkins is pastor.

Converse College, Spartanburg, of which Rev. Dr. R. P. Pell is president, has begun its new session with its large dormitories actually full of boarding pupils, and many town girls besides.

Harmony Presbytery will meet in stated session at Sumter, S. C., October 9 at 11:30 A. M.

W. H. Workman, Stated Clerk.

Union Group: The pastor of Central church of Harmony Presbytery, Rev. W. I. Sinnott, recently closed a meeting of 16 days in this church. The visible results of the meeting are 12 accessions by confessing Christ (nine of these persons received baptism when received), the promise of two more members from other denominations, when the certificates are obtained, and the baptism of three infants. Preparation had been made for the meeting by the enlargement of the seating capacity of the church to accommodate about 40 additional persons, the purchase of extra chairs, lamps and hymn books, but at times the small building thus enlarged would not hold the entire congregations. The fourth anniversary of the pastor's connection with this church occurred during the meeting, on which day there were two accessions to the church. During these four years 40 communicants have been added to this church, 33 by confessing Christ and five by transfer from other denominations and two from other Presbyterian churches. A grand preparation for the present pastorate was made by a meeting conducted by the late saintly Dr. James McDowell, in which 17 were received into the full fellowship of the church. During this four year period the other churches of the pastoral group have increased their membership; Union receiving 17 by confession and eight by letter, and Lake City 28 by confession and 20 by letter. The resident membership of Lake City has increased more than 110 per cent in four years. The entire number of accessions for the group during the four year period is 35 by certificate and transfer from other churches and 78 by confessing Christ, of which latter number 28 received the ordinance of baptism on their reception into the church.

New Harmony Church: Harmony Presbytery was called to meet in Sumter, S. C., to ordain Mr. Henry L. Reaves as a missionary to China. After approving all the "parts of trial" required except the preaching of the required sermon, it was decided that it would be better, instead of having the ordination on a week-day in a busy city, to complete the work in the little country church, New Harmony, in which he was born and reared. The wisdom of this decision was seen on the day when Presbytery reassembled at New Harmony with a large congregation gathered not only from the sparsely settled community but from other neighboring congregations. Besides buggies and carriages there were fourteen automobiles at the church. A

delightful dinner was served the congregation by loving hearts and willing hands. After Mr. Reaves preached his sermon and it was approved, Rev. L. L. Leyters, who had been appointed previously by Presbytery for this purpose, preached the required sermon, and then "the presiding minister, with prayer and the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery, according to the Apostolic example, solemnly set," H. L. Reaves, "apart to the holy office of the gospel ministry" as an evangelist. After this Rev. Mr. Leyters delivered a unique charge to the newly ordained evangelist. For the present, Mr. Reaves is serving the churches, McDowell, Brewington and Lanes, eagerly awaiting the hour when the money in the foreign missionary treasury will permit him to enter upon the work to which God has called him and which he has chosen.

W. I. Sinnott,
Moderator Pro Tem.

TENNESSEE.

S. P. University: The forty-second session of the University opened on September 20. Among the gratifying announcements made at the opening was the fact that President Dobyns had decided to remain with the University. During the summer he was offered the presidency of another institution, which offer was pressed upon him repeatedly, but after due consideration he declined it, thinking it his duty to remain with S. P. U. Three new professors were present for the opening: Rev. George Lang, D. D., McComb professor of history and vice-president; Professor I. P. Mason, of the science department; and Dr. R. C. Beale, of the English department.

R. E. F.

TEXAS.

Synod of Texas will meet in Bryan, Texas, October 10, 7:30 P. M., 1916. The clerks will be in the church the afternoon of the 10th, to enroll the members of the Synod.

J. D. Leslie, Stated Clerk.

Bowie: This church has been without a pastor since the removal of Rev. G. L. Smith to Dallas, nearly one year ago. Through the efforts of a consecrated number of elders the work has been kept up as much as possible through the Sunday-school, the Westminster League and the prayer meeting. Removals, however, have so weakened the church that the Home Mission Committee of Dallas Presbytery has been asked to group this point with some other church if such arrangement can be made. Rev. E. S. Lawrance, a former pastor, was invited to preach for the church on the third Sunday in September. Two large congregations were present and nine members were received. Six of these by letter, and three little girls, members of the Sunday-school class of a faithful teacher, on profession of their faith in Christ. Consent was secured to take the special collection for the Endowment Fund for Ministerial Relief, and to the surprise and delight of the people \$110.00 was pledged. The services were an encouragement to the church.

Crockett: We are moving along steadily with our church work. We have a good Sabbath-school. Our prayer-meeting service has for some time past had an encouraging attendance. The financial condition of our part of the country has improved and caused our people to manifest a hopeful spirit. We have a good section of the country, and have room for many more good people, especially farmers, and those who have the money to invest in cheap lands, and in manufacturing enterprises.

S. F. Tenney.

Change of Address.

Rev. W. A. Dabney, from Shelfar to Louisa, Va.

UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The session of 1916-1917 began on Wednesday, September 20th. The opening address was made by Dr. Lingle. It was an intensely practical address and was stimulating and helpful not only to the great body of students to whom it was more particularly addressed, but also to the large congregation from the community which had gathered to witness their interest in the institution and to join with the faculty and the people of Ginter Park in welcoming these young men to the community. There are already ninety students on the ground and this indicates that the enrollment for the whole year will again run somewhat over a hundred. The beautiful campus which had been so peaceful and quiet during the summer, the spacious athletic grounds and the various buildings of the institution were transformed at once into scenes of the greatest activity, and by the following morning the institution was working smoothly throughout on its regular schedule. The students are busy also in the organization of their Mission Study classes and in the resumption of their mission work and Sunday-school work in the city and the surrounding communities. They have also begun again the work of their rhetorical society, having a symposium on books and reading at the first meeting in which several of the professors participated. Nor is the welfare of the body forgotten in their varied intellectual and religious pursuits; the Athletic Association is beginning its recreative work at once, and the tennis courts and ball grounds already present an animated appearance.

The communion service of the Ginter Park church in the Seminary chapel, which is always held on the first Sunday of each Seminary session, was conducted by Dr. Caldwell.

Dr. Mack made the address at the opening of the session of Richmond College.

By an arrangement with this institution, which is a college of the first grade, students in the Seminary already holding the degree of Bachelor of Arts from standard colleges will be awarded the degree of Master of Arts at Richmond College for the completion of fifteen hours of advanced work duly approved by the faculty of the college and the presentation of an acceptable thesis showing original investigation. Three of the fifteen hours mentioned may be done in advanced work in language and history at the Seminary.

Notwithstanding the extremely rigid requirements and the vast toil involved, extending over years, there has been a surprising number of applications for the course leading to the degree of Doctor of Divinity. It is, however, well understood by the applicants that only a very small proportion of them will be able to win the degree itself. They are not so much concerned about that as they are about the benefit of the systematic and steady work which the course compels. It is intimated that other seminaries will follow the example of Union in its effort to redeem this degree from the abuses to which some of the colleges have subjected it.

COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The opening exercises of the Columbia Seminary were begun at 5 o'clock September the 20th. Dr. J. O. Reavis, professor of English Bible at this institution, delivered a sermon on Psalm 16:8: "I have set the Lord always

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